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TEMPLE GOES BOWLING FOR HISTORY

The Owls go for a school-record 11th win next week. 17

Grimmie family sues, cites security failures. 2

What on earth is Moo Shoo Jew? Find out. 16

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We round up what you should and shouldn't see this holiday weekend. 12

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1. **How much did SEPTA spend on attorney fees during the recent strike?**

2. **Temple would set a football school record if they win their __th game next week.**

3. **Michael Sheen plays a what in "Passengers"?**

3 things you need to know

GOVERNMENT CANCELS 9/11-ERA REGISTRY FOR FOREIGNERS

The U.S. government is canceling an inactive registry program for visitors from countries where extremist groups are operating, a plan similar to a Muslim registry considered by President-elect Donald Trump. The Department of Homeland Security is formally ending the National Security Entry-Exit Registration Systems program, known as NSEERS, by removing outdated regulations, spokesman Neema Hakim said. The rule change will be published in the Federal Register on Friday and takes effect immediately. DHS concluded that the program, which was suspended in 2011, was redundant and inefficient and did not provide increased security. Begun a year after the Sept. 11, 2001, al Qaeda attacks on the United States, the program expanded within a year to require registration from visitors from 25 countries, most of them with majority-Muslim populations. REUTERS

DEATH TOLL IN MEXICO FIREWORKS MARKET BLAST RISES TO 35

2 The death toll from a chain of explosions at a popular fireworks market on Mexico City's outskirts rose to at least 35 after two more people were added to the list, the local government said on Thursday. The cause of the blast on Tuesday that struck the San Pablito open-air market in Tultepec, about 20 miles north of Mexico City, several days before Christmas, remained unknown. The number of people killed has increased to 35, the State of Mexico's government said in a statement. The latest confirmed victims were a woman and a girl, who both died in hospitals, the government said, noting that 26 people had died at the market, and another nine in hospitals. Dozens more were injured. REUTERS

UBER REMOVES SELF-DRIVING CARS FROM SAN FRANCISCO ROADS

3 Uber Technologies Inc. has removed its self-driving cars from San Francisco streets, halting the autonomous program one week after its launch as the company faced a regulatory crackdown. The California Department of Motor Vehicles said on Wednesday it revoked the registration of 16 Uber self-driving cars because they had not been properly permitted. For the last week, the agency was demanding that Uber shut down its program and comply with regulations requiring a permit to test self-driving cars on public roads. Uber said it was not obligated to have a permit because its vehicles require continuous monitoring by a person in the car. REUTERS

Christina Grimmie GETTY IMAGES

Family of slain 'Voice' singer sues venue, promoter

Family of Christina Grimmie says more should have been done to protect her.

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Six months after a South Jersey singer was killed by a deranged fan, her family has filed a lawsuit over the lack of security that allowed him to get so close to her.

Christina Grimmie, 22, who was a rising star on YouTube and the reality TV show "The Voice," was fatally shot on June 10.

She was signing autographs for fans after a concert in Orlando, Florida, when a man shot her at point-blank range.

The family's lawsuit accuses the venue and promoter of "negligent security."

"No amount of money will bring Christina back," Grimmie family's attorney, Brian Caplan, told Metro in an email. "We believe that those parties who contributed to Christina's untimely death should be held responsible for their conduct or failure to act."

"We are hopeful that our lawsuit will bring widespread attention to the issue of concert security and safety and that more effective safeguards will be implemented to protect performers and attendees at concerts around the United States in the future," Caplan said.

Promoter AEG Live and the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra Plaza Foundation, which owns The Plaza Live, and an unidentified security company were named as defendants in the suit, which was filed in an Orange County court.

The suit claims that security consisted of "superficial bag checks with no body pat-downs or the use of metal detectors."

"Christina's assailant was permitted to enter The Plaza Live Theater facility with two 9mm Glock handguns, two full magazines and a large hunting knife," the suit stated. "As Christina greeted fans and signed autographs following her performance, her fully armed assailant waited in line to see her, then shot Christina three times."

> *"No amount of money will bring Christina back ..."*
> Brian Caplan

Grimmie had performed as the opening act for the band Before You Exit at The Plaza Live theater in Orlando and was with fans after the show when Kevin James Loibl, who was reportedly obsessed with Grimmie, opened fire. After getting tackled by Grimmie's brother, Mark, he fatally shot himself in the head,

Grimmie rose to fame posting her songs and covers on YouTube, and had hundreds of thousands of followers on social media. She had also been a finalist on "The Voice" shortly before her death.

Her brother Mark was back in South Jersey earlier this month to dedicate a Wishwall in Marlton in his sister's honor. He said the family is also working to release a new album of his sister's recordings in February.

AEG Live said it does not comment on pending litigation.

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BRIEF

Philadelphia police on alert after Berlin terror attack

The Philadelphia Police Department quietly stepped up its police presence at the Christmas Village in Center City after a terrorist drove a truck into a holiday market in Berlin.

"We've always maintained a police presence out there," said Lt. John Stanford, spokesman for the police department. "When this occurred, we actually did increase our police presence. ... Police presence will be noticeable in some situations."

The popular Christmas Village market of holiday shops is traditionally held in LOVE Park during the holiday season. This year it was moved to the City Hall courtyard and apron this year while the park is under renovation.

Some patrons may have noticed bike cops on patrol at multiple points in and around the market.

Bike cops on duty SAM NEWHOUSE

In Berlin, authorities were still searching as of press-time for the suspect who drove a truck through a holiday market in Berlin, killing 12 and injuring 48.

"We want people to know that we're very aware of it, we're cognizant of the fact that these things are occurring around the world," Stanford said. "The bad part about these situations is that when they occur, the attention they bring instills fear, and we want to try our best to not unnecessarily put people into a panic."

Stanford added that the police department is working closely with federal and state law enforcement partners on security in Philly.

SAM NEWHOUSE

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A child actor in Toronto portrays Tiny Tim in the classic play "A Christmas Carol," who voices the line, "God bless us, everyone," which a school district now says did not lead to the play's cancellation. GETTY IMAGES

Jewish family flees after Christmas play cancellation story goes viral

Hempfield School District denies reports that complaints about play prompted cancellation.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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A Jewish family is reportedly in hiding after they were accused of getting a fifth-grade Christmas play canceled, a story the school denies.

"Was it a complaint about the line 'God bless us, everyone!' that prompted reassessment of the play? Absolutely not," the Hempfield School District posted online.

The school district posted an "FAQ" about the cancellation of the traditional performance of "A Christmas Carol" at Centreville Elementary School after a story went viral that said two parents' complaints about that specific line got the entire play canceled.

Now, a Jewish family who asked in September if their child could not participate in the play has fled Lancaster County after fears that they are being blamed for the play's cancellation and may be sought out by online commenters on right-wing websites.

"There's no way we're going to take a chance after the pizza incident," the parents, who have remained anonymous, told LancasterOnline. They were referring to the "Pizzagate" incident where a man fired a rifle inside a Washington, D.C., pizza shop he targeted after reading false reports online that it was a site of child abuse.

The parents also said their child was bullied in school and blamed for the cancellation of the play, which had been traditionally performed for about 20 years, according to the school district.

The complaints were first publicized by local ABC news affiliate WHTM, which asserted that the play was canceled because of the complaints about the line "God bless us, everyone," from two parents.

Based on those reports, Fox News opinion writer Todd Starnes called the cancelation a product of "Christmas intolerance." Conservative, reputed "alt-right" news site Breitbart wrote an article about the incident, on which, a commenter wrote, "It would be nice if we had the addresses of those concerned citizens."

According to the school district, the play was canceled because rehearsals and practice were scheduled during the school day, which they decided took too much time away from classroom curriculum, not because of any parent's complaints.

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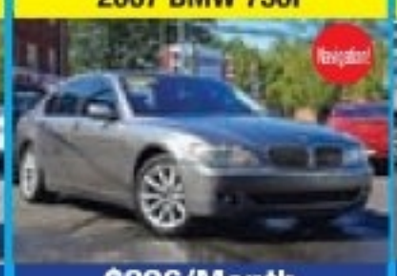

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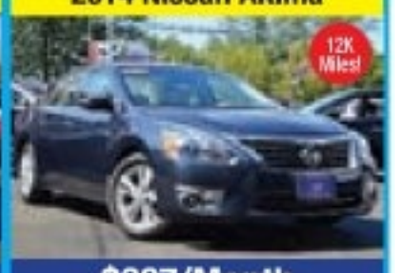

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Hughes announces $125K in new grants to fight lead poisoning

State Sen. Vincent Hughes, at podium, announces new funding to fight lead poisoning. COURTESY OF STATE SEN. VINCENT HUGHES

State Sen. Vincent Hughes announced Thursday that he has successfully brought together $125,000 in new grants to help fund Philly's fight against lead poisoning.

While lead poisoning rates have dropped dramatically among Philly children, it's still twice as high as the rest of the nation.

In 2015, 369 children tested with blood-lead levels above 10 micrograms per deciliter, according to the city. Another 1,477 children had blood-lead levels between 5 and 9 micrograms per deciliter. When ingested, lead paint chips or dust can cause severe and permanent developmental damage to children.

"We know that lead poisoning is a serious problem in both Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania," the Philadelphia Democrat said in a statement.

Out of the funds, $35,000 will go toward a training program at the Overbrook Environmental Education Center that "teaches lead safety measures necessary to protect inhabitants during renovations, repairs, and painting projects" in pre-1978 housing and child occupied facilities, according to Hughes' office.

Lead paint left on walls before the federal government banned it from consumer use in 1978 could be disturbed during these types of projects and affect youngsters.

The remainder of the funding, $90,000, will go toward the city's "Lead and Healthy Homes Program, which conducts lead remediation for contaminated properties," according to Hughes' office.

Hughes announcement comes days after Mayor Jim Kenney announced the formation of a Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Advisory Group to step up the fight against lead poisoning.

SAM NEWHOUSE

We want your pics!

Send Metro your photos to be featured in an upcoming issue. Post your best local photos to Instagram or Twitter using the hashtag #metropicsboston to not only see them in our paper, but also on Metro.us and our social media pages. Today's picture was taken at City Hall. @ RESPECTPHILLYOURS /INSTAGRAM

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Report: SEPTA spent $423K on lawyers during strike

The six-day shutdown halted public transportation in the city.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
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A SEPTA bus and trolley METRO FILE PHOTO

For the six-day strike by its workers union in early November, SEPTA dished out more than $420,000 to two law firms for negotiations, according to a report released Thursday by PlanPhilly.

Ballard Spahr, which led negotiations for Transport Workers Union Local 234, billed the transit agency $310,013 for issues relating to the union.

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney billed SEPTA an additional $113,375 for the agency's attempt to win an emergency court injunction to end the strike, a move that did not succeed.

Negotiators on both sides failed to hammer out an agreement on pension reform, health care and wages by an Oct. 31 deadline.

At midnight on Nov. 1, TWU Local 234 president Willie Brown announced that the 4,738 unionized employees who ran the city's bus, trolley and subway routes would not show up to work.

SEPTA's legal counsel and the union, represented by in-house attorney Bruce Bodner, clashed throughout the negotiations, and fought their battles in news releases to the media.

The six-day shutdown came to an end early on Nov. 7, and service was mostly returned to normal by Nov. 8, Election Day.

To read the full report on SEPTA's spending, visit planphilly.com. PlanPhilly is published by Networks, the online home of WHYY News.

Ibrahim Muhammed, left, and Nalik Scott were convicted Wednesday in the triple killing at Lorena's Grocery. PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Two men convicted in West Philly triple killing

More than five years after Ibrahim Muhammad and Nalik Scott walked into a West Philadelphia grocery and fatally shot the store owner, his wife and her sister, a jury convicted both men of murder.

On Wednesday, after 1½ hours of deliberation, a jury found the two men guilty of all charges, including three counts of first-degree murder. Muhammad and Scott, both 35, now face the death penalty, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported, The sentencing phase began on Thursday.

On Sept. 6, 2011, the pair had intended to rob the store, according to Muhammad. But instead it turned deadly, and the pair killed Porfirio Nunez, the owner of Lorena's Grocery on 50th and Parrish streets, his wife Juana and sister-in-law Lina Sanchez. The couple had two children.

In a 2012 confession, Muhammad said the killing was "just supposed to be a robbery" that ended up going awry. He and Scott were expecting a big haul, too, Muhammad told Philadelphia police detective Thomas Gaul, according to reports. ALEXIS SACHDEV

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TOM FOREMAN
Opinion
CNN's Tom Foreman is the author of the book "My Year of Running Dangerously."
@tomforemancnn

A dismal wind whips flecks of rain around Capitol Hill. The big Christmas tree sags in the dark and clammy air. Under a streetlight, a man shuffles my way in a red outfit, dragging a cloth bag. For a moment I imagine he's homeless; then, a realization: "Santa! What are you doing here?"

"What? Whozzat? Oh, it's you. I thought I was getting robbed." He stops and sighs. "Just trying to drop off a few more gifts before the holidays are past."

"Checked your list and checked it twice?" I smile in the night.

He scowls. "Don't be a wiseass. Or maybe I need another name on my Naughty list?"

"Sorry," I say. "So who are you delivering to?"

"Well, I'd like to say everyone, but that's not the case. The election was so nasty I've been dropping off enough coal to get black lung."

"Whoa, that doesn't sound like the St. Nick I know! Where is the 'ho ho ho,' the reindeer, and the magical sleigh?"

He glowers again. "Not happening. In fact, as soon as I drop off these last items I'm headed back to my melting North Pole to see if I can salvage enough good cheer for a fresh start in the New Year. I could use that. And a drink."

I look up at some rain-spattered windows. "I guess that makes sense. So what do you have left?"

"A few small bags of filibuster for the Democratic leadership. Couple of positive poll numbers for the outgoing president."

"Nothing for the Republicans?"

"They got their gift in November."

"Gosh, Santa, this all seems so sad. Can't you give me some hope?"

"Meh. I handed all of that out eight years ago. How about a candy cane?"

"No. I'm good."

We both start to leave when I see him turn back, a faint, familiar twinkle in his eye. "You know, most people are good," he says. "It's just during election years they get so focused on their differences, they forget how much they have in common. Don't let it get you down."

"Thanks, Santa. That helps."

"Sure you don't want that candy cane?"

"Bring it next year. Maybe we can share it in better times."

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Trump calls for expanded US nuclear weapons capability

Trump campaigned on a platform of building up the U.S. military, but also pledged to cut taxes and control federal spending.

President-elect Donald Trump GETTY IMAGES

President-elect Donald Trump called on Thursday for the country to expand its nuclear weapons capabilities until the world "comes to its senses" — a signal he may support costly efforts to modernize the aging U.S. nuclear arsenal.

It was not clear what prompted his comment. However, earlier on Thursday, Russian President Vladimir Putin said that Russia needed to "strengthen the military potential of strategic nuclear forces."

Trump, who is in Florida for the Christmas holiday, gave no further details. Asked about the tweet, a spokesman said later Trump was "referring to the threat of nuclear proliferation and the critical need to prevent it — particularly to and among terrorist organizations and unstable and rogue regimes."

Trump also has "emphasized the need to improve and modernize our deterrent capability as a vital way to pursue peace through strength," spokesman Jason Miller said.

"The United States must greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability until such time as the world comes to its senses regarding nukes."

Trump posted on Twitter

During the next decade, U.S. ballistic missile submarines, bombers and land-based missiles — the three legs of the nuclear triad — are expected to reach the end of their useful lives. Maintaining and modernizing the arsenal is expected to cost at about $1 trillion dollars over 30 years, according to independent estimates.

Putin, who has said that Trump has confirmed to him he is willing to mend ties between the two countries, spoke on Thursday of the need to enhance the country's nuclear arsenal.

"We need to strengthen the military potential of strategic nuclear forces, especially with missile complexes that can reliably penetrate any existing and prospective missile defense systems," he said in a speech in Moscow. REUTERS

Prosecutors: NJ man groped woman on flight, then wrote apology note

A New Jersey man groped a woman during a transcontinental flight and then apologized in a pair of notes in which he acknowledged his actions were "stupid," authorities said on Thursday.

Ganesh Parkar, 40, of Windsor, appeared in federal court in Newark, New Jersey, on Thursday to face a charge of abusive sexual contact, one day after the female passenger was assaulted on an overnight Air India flight from Mumbai to Newark.

Parkar had a business class seat but chose to sit in a middle seat next to the woman in economy class, prosecutors said.

The woman fell asleep and later awakened to discover that her blanket had been pulled off her body, according to a criminal complaint. After replacing the blanket and going back to sleep, the woman again woke up to find Parkar's hand inside her shirt, prosecutors said.

According to court documents, the woman yelled, "What the hell are you doing?" and crew members instructed Parkar to move back to his assigned seat.

Parkar repeatedly asked flight attendants to allow him to speak to the woman but his requests were denied, prosecutors said. He wrote her two notes in which he apologized for a "moment's stupidity" and admitted he had been "stupid," according to the complaint.

A defense lawyer for Parkar did not immediately respond to a request for comment. REUTERS

Passenger pulled off flight for harassing Ivanka Trump

The man's husband reportedly tweeted an hour before the flight that he was going to accost Ivanka.

CRISTABELLE TUMOLA
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cristabelle.tumola@metro.us

Ivanka Trump may want to reconsider her travel options. GETTY IMAGES

Maybe she shouldn't fly commercial for a while.

Soon-to-be first daughter Ivanka Trump was on a JetBlue flight leaving JFK Thursday morning when a passenger, apparently determined to harass her, started to verbally accost her family, including her three children, TMZ first reported.

The male harasser reportedly had kids in his arms while he told Ivanka her father was "ruining the country," and asked her why she wasn't "flying private."

Ivanka ignored the man, according to TMZ, while he was pulled off the plane by JetBlue, screaming "You're kicking me off for expressing my opinion?!"

TMZ later reported that the husband of the accoster tweeted an hour before the flight that his husband would be "chasing [Ivanka and her husband Jared] down to harass them."

Senior Trump transition sources confirmed to ABC News that the incident took place Thursday morning as Ivanka and her family were traveling to Hawaii for a vacation. Secret Service was with Ivanka, but did not engage with the passenger, allowing JetBlue to handle the incident.

The male harasser reportedly had kids in his arms while he told Ivanka her father was "ruining the country."

ABC7 identified the passenger who tweeted about the incident as Matthew Lasner, a Hunter College professor. He reportedly also tweeted that the couple were removed after his husband "expressed displeasure in a calm tone."

Both tweets had since been deleted.

In a statement to ABC7, JetBlue said: "The decision to remove a customer from a flight is not taken lightly. If the crew determines that a customer is causing conflict on the aircraft, the customer will be asked to deplane, especially if the crew feels the situation runs the risk of escalation during flight. In this instance, our team worked to re-accommodate the party on the next available flight." REUTERS

BRIEF

Mobile phone company to pay $30 million in US fraud case

A KDDI Corp. mobile phone unit has agreed to pay $30 million to resolve government claims that it defrauded a low-income subsidy program by seeking reimbursement for ineligible consumers, prosecutors said on Thursday.

Total Call Mobile LLC agreed to no longer participate in the Lifeline subsidy program or reimburse tens of thousands of ineligible consumers who had enrolled, Manhattan U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara said in a statement.

The settlement also ends an administrative investigation by the Federal Communications Commission, which in April announced plans to fine Total Call $51 million.

"We have no toleration for fraud," said FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Travis LeBlanc said in a statement.

Gardena, California-based Total Call admitted and accepted responsibility for its conduct at issue in the case. A lawyer for Total Call did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Launched in 1985, the $1.5 billion Lifeline program provides a $9.25 monthly subsidy to help low-income Americans get telephone service. The FCC in March approved a plan add internet access. REUTERS

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What to see this holiday weekend

As usual, Christmas Day means a ton of movies hitting the multiplex. Here's what to see (and what to avoid). MATT PRIGGE

KERRY BROWN

wknd

THE FUN STARTS HERE

"Assassin's Creed"

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KERRY BROWN

The dialogue in "Assassin's Creed" isn't exactly Shakespeare. The stars and director should know: The last time Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard and filmmaker Justin Kurzel teamed up, it was for last year's "Macbeth." How they wound up immediately reuniting for a nutty video-game movie about a knife fanatic skulking about circa the Spanish Inquisition is a mystery for the cosmos. Even they seem confused.

The rare video game movie that will perplex even the source's dedicated players, "Assassin's Creed" actually spends little time in the past. It's mostly set in the present, with Fassbender's criminal jumping into the mind of his badass ancestor. It's all very confusing, but there's something sublimely ridiculous about a movie where Jeremy Irons and Charlotte Rampling play the king and queen of evil, and where the incomprehensible plot involves a trip to Christopher Columbus' tomb. It doesn't deserve to become a franchise. It's better to leave this batty thing alone, like a free-floating curio that will confound and delight bad cinema enthusiasts of the future.

"Passengers"

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Enjoy the early stretches of "Passengers" — you're in for a bumpy ride. Chris Pratt plays Jim, one of thousands aboard a luxury space cruiser headed for a new life on a far-off planet. He was supposed to be in hypersleep for 120 years. One day he's accidentally awoken, finding himself alone, with some 90 years to go. For him it's torture; for us, it's engaging, even fun watching him try to keep himself sane when the only one to talk to is a robot bartender (Michael Sheen).

Driven mad with loneliness, he can't help but wake heavily sleeping fellow traveler (Jennifer Lawrence). He woos her, and without telling her his horrible secret. To reveal how things go once she does find out would be a spoiler. Let's just say it doesn't end well, at least for any viewer grossed out by sick male fantasies. One watches it while nervously biting nails. Maybe it won't end deplorably? Maybe it won't recall that old Onion article "Romantic-Comedy Behavior Gets Real-Life Man Arrested"? Alas, no.

COLUMBIA PICTURES

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

"Sing"

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"Sing" revolves around a koala (Matthew McConaughey, collecting a paycheck) who creates a singing contest to save his failing theater, which he has run into the ground. He recruits a roulette of talented daydreaming animals (voiced by Reese Witherspoon, Scarlett Johansson, Seth MacFarlane, etc.), all of whom are — surprise! — unappreciated musical prodigies hoping to escape the mundanity of their lives.

As with so many digitally-animated movies, "Sing" is technically competent but utterly bland. The animation is hyper-detailed, but the writing is pedestrian. The heart-warming moments feel like Pixar's leftovers reheated in a microwave. The cast can belt out notes with aplomb, especially YouTube star-turned Grammy-nominated singer Tori Kelly. You get the feeling that "Sing" is nothing more than a two-hour, $75-million advertisement for a celebrity covers album. GREG CWIK

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

"Why Him?"

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"Why Him?" is hardly the triumphant return to comedy Bryan Cranston deserved. But it does have a funny James Franco, which is when the actor is his best. As usual, he plays a lovable idiot, this one a Silicon Valley god who opens his swanky digs to the Flemings, a suburban family whose smart, college-age daughter (Zoey Deutch) has confusingly become enamored with this loon. Her father, Cranston's Ned, is not pleased, especially when Franco's Laird says he wants to pop the question.

"Why Him?" ladles on the gross-out deluges, with Cranston gamely defiling himself, including two separate bouts with a "smart toilet" and, in likely the year's worst scene, even, later winds up trapped under a desk while his daughter and Laird obliviously and noisily get it on above him.

"Hidden Figures"

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"Hidden Figures," in which we watch a trio of black women in the early 1960s triumph over adversity, arrives at the tail-end of a brutal year for diversity. Oh, and the baddies are racists (and Russians). Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer and Janelle Monae gamely play Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn and Mary Jackson — three under-heralded real-life brainiacs who, through pluck, luck and uncommon genius, rise up from low-level positions at NASA, each eventually playing small but key roles in the early days of the American space race.

There are plenty of bigots to fend off, but this isn't another movie in which the black experience is told from a white perspective. It's our three heroes' struggles, suffering and legitimately thrilling moments of triumph that steer the ship. Oddly enough, this tale from America's past will distract you from our grim present.

HOPPER STONE

"Fences"

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PARAMOUNT PICTURES

One of the great pleasures of seeing an August Wilson play is listening to it. Reading them just doesn't do them justice; you have to see a production to hear the musicality of his words, which Wilson honed by listening to the denizens of Pittsburgh's working class neighborhoods. Sadly, the movies don't do filmed theater much anymore, and Denzel Washington's "Fences" — the first Wilson to ever hit the big screen, amazingly — only exists because Denzel is Denzel. It's his gift to those who missed his Tony-winning run (as well as Viola Davis') in "Fences" on Broadway in 2010.

Washington reprises the role as Troy, a former Negro League baseballer, now settled into a not quite comfy 1950s life as a waste collector. His temper and his love for arguing enrages his grown sons (Russell Hornsby and Jovan Adepo), as well as his long-simmering wife (Davis). Washington's special brand of confidence is perfect for Troy. But where his character is selfish, Washington, as an actor and director, is generous. He gives all actors space to breathe, and lets Davis gradually take over the picture, complete with a teary, snotty rant for the ages.

THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

"Lion"

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It would have been so easy for "Lion" to be a noble stinker. The true story of an Indian boy, Saroo (Sunny Pawar), who accidentally finds himself far from home, it could have been a "Blind Side" clone, focusing on the nice Australian couple (Nicole Kidman and David Wenham) who adopted him. When he grows into a handsome, dreamily long-haired 20-something (there on out played by Dev Patel), it could have been about how he assimilated into first world culture, pulling himself up by the bootstraps.

Amazingly, "Lion" is neither of these films. The rescuing white couple quickly recede into the background, and the second half winds up focusing on Saroo's possibly impossible attempts to locate his lost family. It's a cool-tempered film that takes its time, giving equal attention to young Saroo's harrowing journey to be saved and his anguished young adulthood. Yes, it's a middle-brow movie, and it was essentially made to win awards. (Patel and Kidman are both Golden Globe nominated.) But give it the chance and it can be surprisingly subtle.

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Michael Sheen does the robot

The acclaimed actor talks about joining the storied ranks of British androids with "Passengers."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
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In "Passengers," Michael Sheen plays a robot mixologist who's a clear homage to Lloyd the bartender from "The Shining." COLUMBIA PICTURES

Ian Holm in "Alien." Michael Fassbender in "Prometheus." Anthony Daniels' C-3PO. Now there's Michael Sheen in "Passengers" — all actors who've played British robots. Sheen is one of the sci-fi film's few main cast members, taking on the role of a mecha-bartender aboard a luxury spaceship spiriting thousands of sleeping patrons to a far-off planet. When one of them (Chris Pratt) is accidentally awakened — and then awakens a second (Jennifer Lawrence) — Sheen's Arthur finds himself serving a very limited clientele.

The acclaimed actor, 47, from Wales, talks to us about his love of "Westworld," the nature of consciousness and his history playing computer programs.

So, tell me about playing a robot.

There's a tradition of British-accented movie robots that I have now joined, which I feel very honored about. There's a certain expectation when you see a science-fiction movie with a robot that has a British accent. There's a suspicion of what the agenda might be, of what the robot might do.

Arthur, though, has a simple directive. He's probably not going to suddenly kill everyone, like Ian Holm in "Alien."

He's been programmed to be the perfect bartender. And that means not just the technical aspects of the job, but how he relates to his customers. He needs to anticipate the needs of his customers. If one person just wants quiet, then you do that; if one person wants to talk, you do that. With Jim, he just has one customer. It means that Arthur has to become as human as possible. He becomes a bit Pinnochio-like. He wants to become a real human.

GETTY IMAGES

That raises some fascinating ideas of how consciousness works. We think of it as genetic, but we can see that a form of it can, debatably, happen in augmented reality.

I've been a big fan of "Westworld" recently and thinking about the idea of how consciousness can emerge. In our movie, the circumstances combine to push beyond what [Arthur] was programmed to do. No one ever imagined he'd have one person to deal with. In adapting to one person, it pushes him into areas that create situations he just wasn't programmed for. Maybe it creates something new.

I found that interesting, that maybe something's emerging in him. There's this idea that consciousness comes out of more and more complex networking of neurons. The more complex the situations become, perhaps at some point it turns into something that looks like consciousness. In a small way, that's what's going on with Arthur.

This isn't your first nonhuman character. You played a computer program in "Tron: Legacy," though there you didn't get to do it as a robot.

Exactly. I'm so versatile in the programmed characters I play.

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Crooning and swooning

When Landau Eugene Murphy Jr. won NBC's "America's Got Talent" five years ago, he had no idea that he'd continue on with his arsenal of good time swing and emotive, clarion vocal skills. He loved standard jazz classics by his heroes, Sinatra and Bing Crosby, and was simply happy to keep their legacy alive.

But then again, Murphy Jr. never though he'd make it out of a Michigan car wash where he sang Sinatra tunes to his coworkers. Fast forward to the present, and not only has he released a debut album, "That's Life," that hit No. 1 on the Billboard Jazz chart, a Christmas album — "Christmas Made for Two" — and an autobiography ("Landau: From Washing Cars to Hollywood Star"), he readying his third album for a 2017 release with holiday shows on the horizon.

Are you a competitive fellow with everything you do?
Music is too pure to be competitive about. I just want to entertain, and that show was a great vehicle for it. I have never been competitive in regard to singing at all. Throwing basketballs, running fast; those things I would compete in. Also, I think that everybody can sing, you just need the right opportunities.

You're not singing conventionally easy stuff — it's mostly jazz, big band and Tin Pan Alley standards — at a time when so many people your age go for pop or hip-hop. What was that challenge like?
As a normal urban black kid, I grew up listening to rap and pop in West Virginia. By the time we moved to the big city, more of what was popular hip-hop on the radio became my steady diet. But this genre was something I liked from childhood. I sang Bing Crosby every day, just joking with my friends.

Imagine sounding like Sinatra, looking the way I look? But it worked. I think this genre chose me. The music is pure and timeless so it became natural. I have to say too that my friends would crack up listening to me do this — they like me, never took it seriously. A.D. AMOROSI

Landau Eugene Murphy Jr. won "America's Got Talent" in 2011 with his rendition of "My Way." PROVIDED

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Family, friends, food and laughter are the ingredients to a memorable night on the town. MARIO MANZONI

"Run, don't 'wok'" to Moo Shoo Jew on Dec. 24. MARIO MANZONI

Josh Gondelman and Julie Goldman MINDY TUCKER

'The Moo Shu Jew Show' returns to Philly's Chinatown on Christmas Eve

A side of Jewish humor to go with your bowl of rice.

ALBERT LEE
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

There's a saying in Philadelphia that on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the Jews invade Chinatown. Full disclosure: Having grown up in the neighborhood for most of my childhood, it's kind of true. Last year, my family was the only non-Jewish table in David's Mai Lai Wah. So what could be better than dining on wontons and chop suey? Adding Jewish comics, of course!

Drop your fork and grab the chopsticks for the "Moo Shu Jew Show," an annual event on Christmas Eve that pairs some of the country's hottest Jewish comedians with a family style dinner in Philadelphia's Chinatown.

Now in its eighth year, this tasty combo was born out of necessity, says founder and comedian Cory Kahaney. "New York has unlimited options for things to do on Christmas Eve, but Philly just had the Matzo Ball." For all the "goys," or non-Jews, the Matzo Ball is the nation's largest Jewish singles event that also takes place Dec. 24.

"Everybody knows that on Christmas Eve, Jews go to a Chinese restaurant," says Cory. "So we thought, what if we all went together? What if we brought a bunch of really great Jewish comics to entertain them?"

The idea has certainly paid off. It's been a sell-out every year, with no signs of slowing down especially since Christmas Eve this year falls on the first night of Hanukkah.

If you go

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Cory says that as a producer, it's is very gratifying to see "my people enjoy something I conceived." But is the local Jewish community the only ones who adore Chinese food so? That's hardly the case. Part of this year's entertainment, Josh Gondelman, writer for the "Last Week Tonight With John Oliver" and Julie Goldman, from "The People's Couch," affectionately recall their family gatherings being filled with smells of lo mein and cashew chicken.

"My family absolutely got Chinese food and then went to the movies or vice versa," says Julie. Josh thinks it's a fun tradition. "It's great to have something to do on a day where, as a Jewish person, there are no other specific activities to do. Plus, all your non-Jewish friends are busy and most businesses that aren't Chinese restaurants and movie theaters are closed. So I think it's terrific."

You certainly don't have to be Jewish to attend, but don't expect pork or shellfish to be on the menu. (The meal, however, isn't kosher, and vegetarian options are available.)

Tickets can be purchased in advance by visiting GershmanY.org or by calling 215-545-4400. In the immortal words of renowned Chinese Chef Martin Yan, "Run, don't Wok!"

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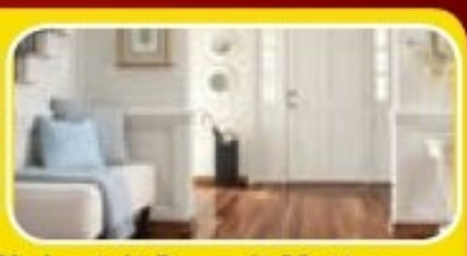

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Bowl preview: Temple trying to ignore distractions in Military Bowl

The Owls will face Wake Forest on Dec. 27 (at 3:30 on ESPN).

JON MARKS
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A Temple victory Tuesday would essentially end all doubt as to which Owls team was the best in school history. GETTY IMAGES

Oh, yeah. There's still a football game to play.

The Military Bowl — not the Distraction Bowl — will pit Temple against Wake Forest Tuesday in Annapolis. It is clear that football has been the last thing on both teams' minds since the matchup was announced Dec. 4.

That day Matt Rhule was still coaching the Owls, basking in the glow of winning the AAC Championship over Navy. That day Dave Clawson of the 6-6 Demon Deacons didn't have to wonder if the team's disgruntled radio analyst was passing his game plans on to other teams.

So you can excuse their players if X's and O's have been somewhat neglected since. There's been a lot to process for both sides.

For Temple it's been the shock of Rhule's sudden departure for Baylor, followed a week later by the hiring of Florida defensive coordinator Geoff Collins as his replacement. All the while longtime assistant Ed Foley has had to run an unsteady ship, making it somehow fitting they should return to the home of the Naval Academy for this one.

Keep in mind there's history at stake for the 10-3 Owls, who've won seven straight coming into this one.

"That 11th win," said Foley, whose Temple coaching era will begin and end Tuesday. "When they got here they all had warts on them. They were a little too slow or a little too small. They didn't get recruited at this or that place for one reason or another. But they meshed and jelled together here.

"As much stuff as they've gone through it changes when you get on the field and have something to compete for. Now they're saying 'we're gonna be the best team to ever wear a Temple uniform."

It's fair to question whether or not Wake Forest has enough to deny them. Since starting out 5-1 they've hit the skids, losing five of their last six, including a 44-12 game to Louisville where Tommy Elrod, a former Demon Deacon player, then assistant, before going to the broadcast booth, passed significant bits of inside information. When reports of the transgression began to surface Wake launched a full scale investigation.

Meanwhile, Clawson has been trying to get his team's heads into this game — and Temple. It's anyone's guess how successful that's been.

But that's not Temple's worry, as 17 seniors, including Philip Walker, Jahad Thomas and others prepare for their final game. Playing close to home the Owls figure to have a bigger fan base coupled with good vibes returning to a stadium where they had success just a few weeks ago.

"It's a little bittersweet being the last one," conceded Thomas, whose 2,564 yards rushing rank sixth in school history. "but we're looking forward to it. We're starting to get into the flow of things."

When Walker, now Temple's career passing leader with 10,272 yards and 72 touchdowns and Thomas — along with Ryquell Armstrong (918 yards and 14 TDs) get in gear the Owls have proven to be a formidable obstacle. Add a defense, which took a while to recover from the loss of All-American Tyler Matakevitch and Matt Ionnidis, before becoming one of the best in the nation.

Come Tuesday, though — assuming they can put aside the distractions and focus on the task at hand looking for the Owls to soar to new heights.

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A182 - Smith, Kionya • B194 - Love, Barbara • B199 - Squires, Tyrone • B205 - Nelson, Micah • B215 - Malone, Kenneth • B235 - Lawson, Tiffany
B275 - Clement, Annette • B282 - Andrews, Paul • B287 - Jewett, Tamika • B296 - Hancock, Erika • B315 - Butts, Eric • B317 - Johnson, Yolanda
B319 - Joynes, Sharee • B349 - Davis, Tammie • B358 - Taylor, Thomas • B419 - Dickens, Troy • B421 - Colclough, Willard • B463 - Mofield, David
B496 - Harris, Towana • B503 - ARMS, LAWRENCE • B569 - Kinsey, Mark • B571 - Brown, Rodney • B572 - Bignall, Shamook
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B455 - Jackson, Cheyenne • B460 - Whitmore, Antoinette • C533 - Wright, Tacorye • D814 - Mcleod, Therin
D844 - MORRISON, ADRIENNE V • E1001 - Robinson, Sheila • E926 - Ezeadum, Latanya
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3190 - Haines, Robert • 3198 - Tazewell, Harriett • 3203 - Fisher, Michelle • B1016 - Goins, Jason
B1020 - Dilullo, Joseph • C1010 - Donoghue, Bryan • C1012 - Brennan, Treasa
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The current Sixers rotation, minutes drama was inevitable

The Sixers are in a mess — and no one yet knows how they are going to get themselves out of it. GETTY IMAGES

The Sixers are between a rock and a hard place with their rotational woes.

ANDY JASNER
@AndyJasner
sports@metro.us

At some point, the 76ers were going to have a dilemma.

Team president Bryan Colangelo understood that fact when he took over for Sam Hinkie. Finding minutes for Joel Embiid, Jahlil Okafor and Nerlens Noel would be a monumental challenge. Then there was the realization that Dario Saric, Ersan Ilyasova and Richaun Holmes would have to fit into the rotation as well.

Noel missed the first 23 games after undergoing knee surgery. Okafor was limited in the early going while coming back from knee surgery. Embiid has been on a minute restriction all season.

Everyone is available for the most part now and it's causing friction. Noel has already voiced his displeasure. Okafor hasn't jelled yet starting alongside Embiid. Holmes has barely played.

Coach Brett Brown is in the midst of a very difficult situation trying to figure out a solution. There are no easy answers.

"We're dealing with a logjam of players based on some decision making that was done prior to me being here," Colangelo told reporters at practice earlier this week. "Coach has talked about inheriting a center situation. You couple that with the uncertainty with regard to health of all three, it made it virtually impossible and there was virtually no ability for me to go out and actively even discuss a trade."

Of course, a trade is always possible. It could be Noel. It could be Okafor. Realistically, Noel or Okafor may need to be moved. But Noel will be a restricted free agent in July, so that makes the situation even trickier.

The trade deadline in February will be worth watching.

"I will only make deals that make sense for this organization," Colangelo told reporters. "Hopefully we can make mutual benefit to both the organization and players involved in whichever respective trades between the trade deadline or before the draft, ultimately."

Noel received a huge ovation when he entered the game Tuesday night in what wound up being a disappointing loss to the New Orleans Pelicans. But he has only played 15 minutes combined in two of the last three games. For a trade to be completed, other teams will need to see the big man in action.

"He is a young, talented prospect that we are trying to determine whether or not he's a fit for this roster," Colangelo told reporters. "Further, I would say, given that he has been unavailable for any sort of evaluation throughout the summer, unavailable early in the season because of a surgical procedure that kept him out, and now made available for really the first time, it's like starting at ground zero with respect to his opportunity to kind of break in as we speak. But, because of his talent, because of his earned respect with respect to what he's already accomplished, we need to now determine whether or not some of that is going to translate to us moving forward as a unit."

> *"I'm pretty sure everyone is lined up to criticize whatever deal I make with Nerlens."*
> Sixers president of basketball operations Bryan Colangelo

Year 1 of the Colangelo regime is still very much a rebuilding project. It's better in Brown's fourth year but far from complete. The next draft will provide two relatively high draft picks. Free agency will be available. Don't forget that Ben Simmons hasn't stepped on the court yet. There are decisions to make and the issue of multiple big men needs to be sorted out soon.

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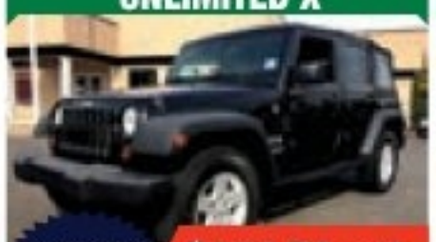
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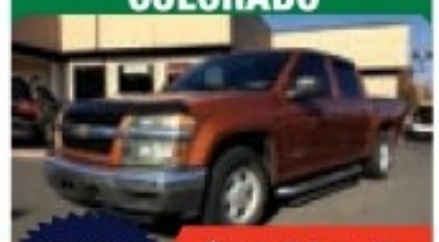
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Villanova's Bridges starting to come of age

The Wildcats could have their next superstar waiting in the wings.

JON MARKS
@MetroPhilly
sports@metro.us

Two years ago — back when the thought of Villanova winning a national championship was a crazy fantasy — Josh Hart was in the place Mikal Bridges is now. After coming off the bench as a freshman he had nudged his way into Jay Wright's starting lineup, only beginning to come of age.

That's not to say the smooth, versatile Bridges will eventually develop his game to the extent of Hart, now the Wildcats' leading scorer and an All-America candidate. Or maybe he will.

"He's just learning to be a starter at this level," said Wright after Bridges scored 15 points, handed out four assists and had zero turnovers as the No. 1 ranked Wildcats completed their preseason 12-0 with a 90-48 romp over American U., which was a lot tougher than it sounds. "That means you have to play hard every minute and play a lot of minutes But he can guard guards, guard forwards, hit threes, drive, press. He's really a complete basketball player."

With the 6-foot-7 sophomore from nearby Malvern doing a bit of everything, Villanova is becoming a complete team.

"I try to set the tone. Just learning how to do it," said Bridges, averaging 10.7 points and 4.9 rebounds, while shooting a blistering 62 percent. "It's a struggle, especially in a game like tonight [where 'Nova trailed early and was only up 40-29 at the half, before taking command].

"It's something I've got to work on."

12-0

VILLANOVA'S PERFECT RECORD THUS FAR. THEY ARE RANKED NO. 1 IN THE NATION.

With the Big East season finally about to get underway, Wright and company know it's time to get down to business.

"It's kind of like a new season," said Wright, with DePaul here Wednesday, followed by back-to-back road games against Creighton and Butler. "We break it down into preseason, league season and postseason.

"I always say I try to judge where our program is by how we do in the Big East. If we're at the top of the Big East, our program is in good shape."

His players can't wait and relish the challenge of being the game everyone circles on their schedule.

"Everybody's gonna play their best game against us and we love it," said Bridges, who doesn't think there's any extra pressure being the hometown kid. "If we can play 40 minutes of Villanova basketball we're gonna be tough.

"The Big East is real tough; one of the best conferences in the country. It's gonna be a battle every game we play from now on."

Wright has no idea how soon he'll get some reinforcements from Phil Booth, who's missed the past nine games with a sore knee. But as long as his three seniors Hart, Kris Jenkins and Darryl Reynolds can police the rest of the team, he'll take his chances.

"We just talked. No yelling," he said of the halftime discussion that triggered a 50-19 second-half blitz. "It all started with the three seniors. When the three seniors take control, everyone falls into place. It's that simple."

Still, it's got to give those seniors and the rest a boost when underclassmen like Bridges and fellow sophomore Jalen Brunson (14 points and six assists) chip in. How good can he be? Bridges downplays such talk, including suggestions he might someday be good enough to make the NBA.

"I'm just trying to work on everything," said Bridges. "Not just offense or defense. I'm not worrying about that other stuff. I just go out there and play. But if I keep working and my teammates keep pushing me I can get a lot better."

For now, though, Mikal Bridges is doing just fine, as are the top ranked Wildcats. A big part of the secret to their success is Hart, the same guy who was just beginning to find himself two years ago at this time.

Many see Wildcat Mikal Bridges as a budding star. GETTY IMAGES

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITY COUNCIL
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3290

2017 NOTICE OF VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Veterans Advisory Commission, established pursuant to Resolution No. 060059 (Adopted February 2, 2006), will meet in City Council Chambers (Room 400, City Hall) on the following dates and times.

Wednesday, March 8th, 2017, at 2:00 P.M.

Wednesday, June 21st, 2017, at 2:00 P.M.

Wednesday, September 13th, 2017, at 2:00 P.M.

Wednesday, December 13th, 2017, at 2:00 P.M.

GEORGE GINDER, CHAIRMAN
Veterans Advisory Commission

CITY COUNCIL
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3290

2017 NOTICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Economic Opportunity Review Committee, established and constituted pursuant to Phila. Code § 17-1607 and Resolution No. 120184, will meet in City Council Chambers (Room 400, City Hall) on the following dates and times:

Monday, March 6th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.
Monday, June 19th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.
Monday, September 11th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.
Monday, December 11th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.

IOLA HARPER, CHAIRPERSON
Economic Opportunity Review Committee

CITY COUNCIL
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3290

2017 NOTICE OF LIVING WAGE AND BENEFITS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Living Wage and Benefits Review Committee, established and constituted pursuant to Phila. Code § 17-1311 and Resolution No. 110807, will meet in City Council Council Chambers (Room 400, City Hall) on the following dates and times:

Tuesday, March 7th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.
Tuesday, June 20th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.
Tuesday, September 12th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.
Tuesday, December 12th, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.

RICHARD LAZER, CHAIRPERSON
Living Wage and Benefits Review Committee

CITY COUNCIL
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3290

2017 NOTICE OF VACANT PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Vacant Property Review Committee will meet in the Caucus Room, (Room 401, City Hall) from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on the following dates:

Tuesday, January 10, 2017
Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Tuesday, March 14, 2017
Tuesday, April 11, 2017
Tuesday, May 9, 2017
Tuesday, June 13, 2017
Tuesday, July 11, 2017
Tuesday, August 8, 2017
Tuesday, September 12, 2017
Tuesday, October 10, 2017
Tuesday, November 14, 2017
Tuesday, December 12, 2017

SUSIE D. JARMON, CHAIRWOMAN
Vacant Property Review Committee

CITY COUNCIL
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3290

2017 NOTICE OF STATED MEETINGS

The Philadelphia City Council will have its Regular Stated Meetings on the dates listed below. All meetings will be held at 10:00 A.M. in Room 400 City Hall, except as noted below.

Thursday, January 26, 2017
Thursday, February 2, 2017
Thursday, February 9, 2017
Thursday, February 16, 2017
Thursday, February 23, 2017
Thursday, March 2, 2017
Thursday, March 9, 2017
Thursday, March 16, 2017
Thursday, March 23, 2017
Thursday, March 30, 2017
Thursday, April 6, 2017
Thursday, April 20, 2017
Thursday, April 27, 2017
Thursday, May 4, 2017
Thursday, May 11, 2017
Thursday, May 18, 2017
Thursday, May 25, 2017
Thursday, June 8, 2017
Thursday, June 15, 2017
Thursday, June 22, 2017
Thursday, September 14, 2017
Thursday, September 21, 2017
Thursday, September 28, 2017
Thursday, October 5, 2017
Thursday, October 12, 2017
Thursday, October 19, 2017
Thursday, October 26, 2017
Thursday, November 2, 2017
Thursday, November 16, 2017
Thursday, November 30, 2017
Thursday, December 7, 2017
Thursday, December 14, 2017

CHANGE OF NAME NOTICE

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, November term, 2016, No. 544

Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of November, the petition of:
Daniel Ueda was filed, praying for a decree to change Daniel Edward Ueda to Daniel Edward Miller-Uueda.

The Court has fixed court date, 6th day of January at 11:30 A.M., in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

Solicitor: J. Carpenter

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ENTERTAINMENT

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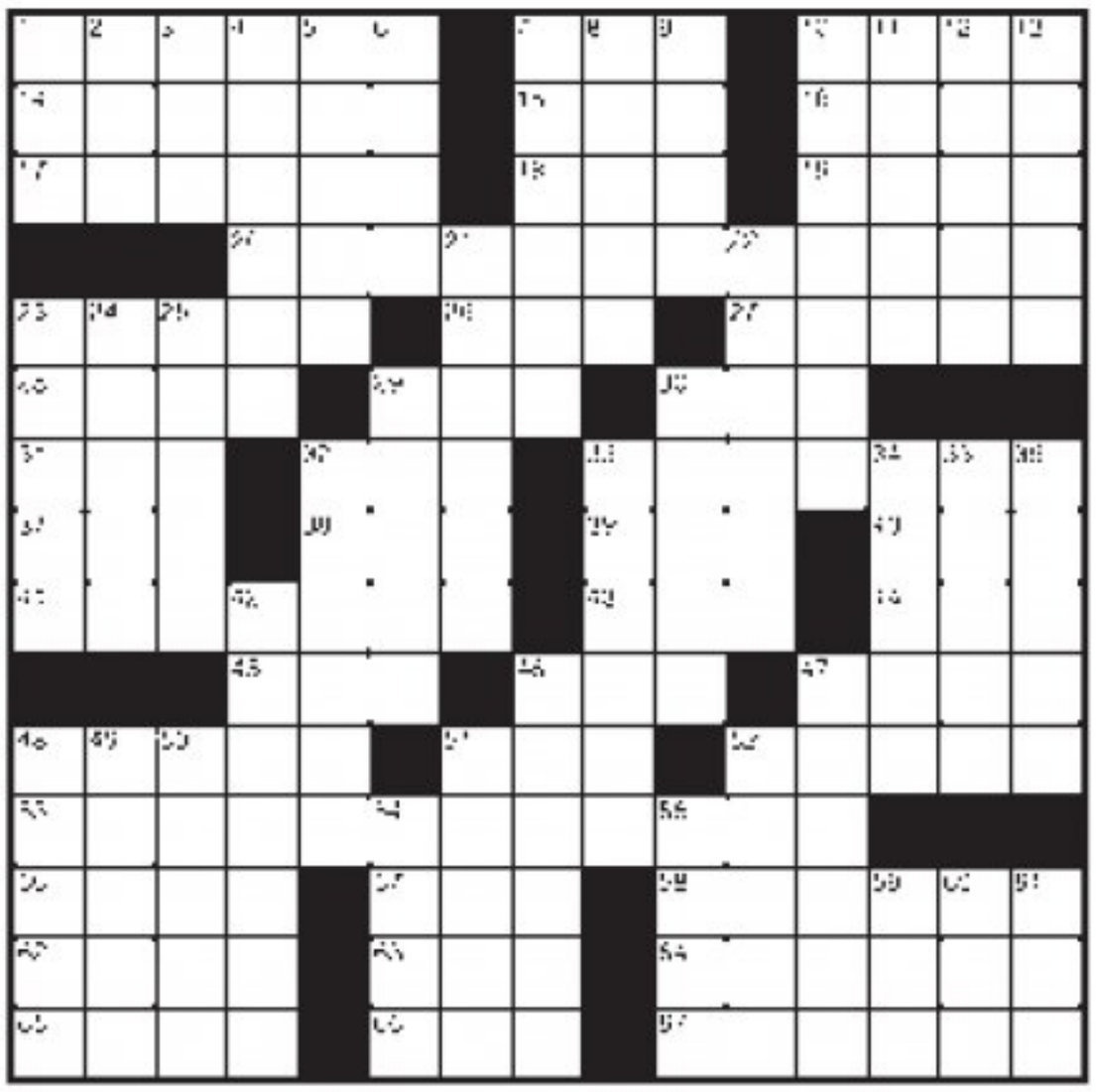

Across

1 Towers over
7 Perform a wedeln
10 Ale ingredient
14 Orange enthusiast
15 Cell habitant
16 Nose stimulus
17 $, % or &
18 Pause fillers
19 Steakhouse order
20 Fast rides (2 wds.)
23 Prickly twig
26 W-2 collectors
27 Root beer brand
28 What libraries do
29 Unser and Gore
30 Juniper product
31 – man out
32 Putter's org.
33 Not worthy of
37 Casual farewell
38 Insect resin
39 Lennon's wife
40 – Maria
41 Ice hockey teams
43 TDs are worth 6
44 Washboard –
45 Fruit cooler
46 Mr. Craven
47 Brood
48 Hornet organ
51 Job-ad letters
52 Watered silk
53 Mound builder (2 wds.)
56 Moffo solo
57 Canine comment
58 Sibyl
62 Livy's route
63 Spike or Ang
64 Squab
65 Brain, maybe
66 Inc. cousin
67 Marinates

Down

1 John -- Passos
2 Like some smiles
3 Point
4 Broke in
5 Dust the cake pan
6 Bear's advice
7 Nasty laughs
8 Waldheim and Cobain
9 Part of MIT
10 Glacial deposit
11 Robin of balladry
12 Ben on "Bonanza"
13 Snake, to Medusa?
21 Fragrant blooms
22 Zoo heavyweights
23 Splotches
24 Change color
25 Kind of card
29 Rock tumbler stone
30 Polite blokes
32 Solemn promise
33 One prone to sheepless nights? (2 wds.)
34 Video-game pioneer
35 Caesar's river
36 Hurry
42 Stein
46 Barked
47 Silo filler
48 Most of Iberia
49 Nut cake
50 More frosty
51 Long-plumed bird
52 Kind of raise
54 Like a sequoia
55 Gym dances
59 Bee chaser
60 Hack off
61 Coast Guard off.

metro.us/sudoku

easy

		8				7		
6			3	4	9		5	
2				5				
8	5			2		1	4	
			4		5			
	2	3		6			8	5
				7				1
	1		8	3	4			2
		5				8		

hard

				6				
		6			1			5
1	7	3				4	2	
5	2			9				
4		9	5		2	3		8
				4			5	9
	5	4				9	7	1
8			9			6		
				1				

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Keep your reactions to a minimum. If you say or do something that someone doesn't like, you will be faced with a problem that can affect your reputation.

Taurus Get together with someone you haven't seen in a long time. The memories you share will lift your spirits and encourage you to revive old dreams.

Gemini A unique gesture will puzzle an employer or co-worker. Put time aside to primp and pamper yourself in preparation for upcoming festivities. Romance is highlighted.

Cancer It's time to try something totally new. Taking a trip or attending a cultural event that gives you insight into different traditions will be enlightening.

Leo Look over personal papers and make sure your finances are in order. You'll discover an interesting way to improve your home without hurting your budget.

Virgo Plan to have some fun. Decorating your home or getting together with friends or peers for a little festive cheer will bring you closer together.

Libra Overreacting or doing something on the spur of the moment will lead to trouble. Spending, eating or drinking too much will create a difficult situation.

Scorpio A gift or offering will take you by surprise. Check out an investment that someone suggests. Stick close to home and nurture important relationships

Sagittarius Last-minute paperwork and decisions can be made that will help set you up for a better future. Take advantage of an opportunity to network.

Capricorn Getting involved in the festivities going on around you will lead to indulgences that could end up making you look bad. Be cognizant of the impression you make.

Aquarius Show how much you care for the ones you love by offering affection and hands-on help instead of fancy goods you cannot afford. Regulate your spending.

Pisces Don't reveal a surprise prematurely. Take time to do something nice for your peers, boss or someone who can make a difference to your status. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

Can't wait until tomorrow to check your answers? Visit **metro.us**

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